

Message Text

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15
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5077
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM

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DEPARTMENT ALSO PASS SAODAP FOR CANDACE COWAN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, NL
SUBJECT: TRAVEL TO US OF DIRECTOR OF AMSTERDAM DRUG
TREATMENT CENTER

1. MR. GABRIEL DAHAN, DIRECTOR OF "DE LAURIER" DRUG TREAT-
MENT CENTER IN AMSTERDAM, IS HOPING TO VISIT U.S. DURING
FIRST TWO WEEKS OF FEBRUARY IN ORDER TO BECOME BETTER
ACQUAINTED WITH DRUG TREATMENT METHODS IN THE U.S.
MR. DAHAN ALSO HOPES TO BE ABLE TO IMPROVE HIS MANAGEMENT
SKILLS THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN APPROPRIATE TRAINING COURSE
AT NATIONAL DRUG ABUSE TRAINING CENTER OR SIMILAR TRAINING
INSTITUTION.

2. MR. DAHAN HAS BEEN IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH DR. PETER
BOURNE OF DRUG ABUSE COUNCIL CONCERNING ABOVE AND DR. BOURNE
HAS IN TURN CONTACTED MS. COWAN AT SAODAP.

3. DE LAURIER IS RESIDENTIAL-TYPE TREATMENT CENTER WHICH
TYPICALLY HAS LARGE PROPORTION OF NON-DUTCH NATIONALS IN
ITS CARE, OFTEN INCLUDING LARGE PERCENTAGE OF AMERICANS.

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ITS PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY CITY OF AMSTERDAM. THE CENTER HAS

A STAFF OF ABOUT FIFTY AND HAS BEEN UNDER MR. DAHAN'S DIRECTION FOR THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS. BESIDES PROVIDING INVALUABLE SERVICE FOR YOUR AMERICANS AND OTHERS SEEKING HELP, THE CENTER, AND MR. DAHAN PERSONALLY, HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL TO EMBASSY AND AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM OFFICERS IN ACQUIRING BETTER APPRECIATION OF LOCAL DRUG PROBLEMS.

4. EMBOFF UNDERSTANDS FROM MR. DAHAN THAT PROJECTED TRIP WOULD HAVE TO BE AT DAHAN'S PERSONAL EXPENSE UNLESS HE CAN RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM U.S. SOURCE, AS HIS ORGANIZATION'S BUDGET CONTAINS ONLY MINISCULE MAOUNT FOR TRAVEL AND PROSPECTS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM AMSTERDAM CITY COUNCIL FOR THIS PURPOSE ARE NIL. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS WOULD REPRESENT HEAVY BURDEN ON MR. DAHAN, WHO, TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, HAS ONLY MODEST MEANS. (FYI: MR. DAHAN LIVES IN A MODESTLY APPOINTED APARTMENT AT "DE LAURIER" ITSELF).

5. MR. DAHAN, WHO APPEARS TO BE IN HIS MID-THIRTIES, IS A LEBANESE NATIONAL AND HAS BEEN RESIDING IN THE NETHERLANDS DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS. HE IS MARRIED TO AN AMERICAN CITIZEN AND THEY ARE NOW EXPECTING THEIR SECOND CHILD. HE SPEAKS SEVERAL LANGUAGES, INCLUDING ARABIC, DUTCH, FRENCH, ENGLISH, SWEDISH, AND SOME SPANISH AS A RESULT OF EXTENSIVE TRAVELS THROUGHOUT EUROPE. HE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN IN THE UNITED STATES AND HAS IN-LAWS WITHIN COMMUTING DISTANCE OF DOWNTOWN WASHINGTON, WHITH WHOM HE WOULD EXPECT TO LDOGE SHOULD HE VISIT THAT CITY.

6. EMBASSY COMMENT: WE BELIEVE MR. DAHAN IS SINCERE AND DEDICATED INDIVIDUAL WHOSE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE HIS SKILLS AND QUALITY OF SERVICES AVAILABLE TO ADDICTS, INCLUDING YOUNG AMERICANS, MERIT OUR ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND SUPPORT OF INTERESTED WASHINGTON AGENCIES, INCLUDING PROVISION OF FUNDING IF NECESSARY, SO THAT MR. DAHAN WILL HAVE AS FRUITFUL A VISIT AS POSSIBLE. GOULD

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